

Message Text

SECRET

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67-S

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 NSC-07 SAM-01 SP-03 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 PM-07 DRC-01 /067 W

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R 101515Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7847

AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USMTM DHAHRAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 3979

KUWAIT PASS DOHA

E.O.: 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, BA, SA

SUBJ: POSSIBLE BAHRAINI INTEREST IN HAWK MISSILES

REF : MANAMA 0449 (NOTAL)

1. LOCAL RAYTHEON PROJECT DIRECTOR IS TOTALLY UNAWARE OF ANY BAHRAINI INTEREST IN HAWK AND OF ANY SAG INTEREST IN PLACING HAWK BATTERY ON BAHRAIN. USMTM AIR DEFENSE ADVISORS ARE ALSO UNAWARE OF ANY CONSIDERATION OF SUBJECT. WHEN IN BAHRAIN LAST NOVEMBER ON ORIENTATION, HOWEVER, JIDDA POL/MIL OFFICER CECIL WAS TOLD BY EITHER STARRETT OF STEIN THAT SAUDIS HAD TWICE EXPRESSED INTEREST TO GOB IN PLACING HAWK BATTERY ON ISLAND, AND THAT IF THEY PERSISTED GOB WOULD PROBABLY ASSENT. WE WERE NEVER ABLE TO CONFIRM THIS, HOWEVER.

2. BAHRAINI CROWN PRINCE-DEFENSE MINISTRY'S INTEREST IN HAWK MAY WELL HAVE BEEN STIMULATED BY HIS JUNE 11 ATTENDANCE AT GRADUATION CEREMONY AT JIDDA AIR DEFENSE SCHOOL, WHEN ABOUT 20 BAHRAINIS GRADUATED FROM SPECIAL
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COURSE ON OERLIKON 35MM ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN WHICH SCHOOL

ORGANIZED FOR BAHRAINIS. HAWK SCHOOL FACILITIES ARE AT THE SAME SITE.

3. TRAINING IN HAWK OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE FOR BAHRAINIS COULD TAKE PLACE IN JIDDA. SINCE BATTERIES ON BAHRAIN WOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO DEFENSE OF DHAHRAN AREA WE WOULD THINK THAT WITH RIGHT APPROACH GOB COULD CONVINCE SAG TO COVER ALL EXPENSES INCLUDING TRAINING.
AKINS

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NNN

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